The National
Future Farmer

Published by the Future Farmers of America

August-September, 1985

Inside This Issue: The Horse Industry
The Logger's Life

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August-September, 1985
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A Word With The Editor

Plans are shaping up for the National FFA Convention scheduled for Kansas City, Missouri, November 14-16, 1985. One major change to keep in mind for this year is that the convention will end with the final session Saturday afternoon—not Saturday evening as in the past. After close of the regular session, entertainment is scheduled for 4:30-6:00 p.m. on Saturday.

At this point, four outstanding speakers have been confirmed. They include: Rocky Bleier who courageously fought back from a serious combat wound to become an outstanding running back for the Pittsburgh Steelers, sponsored by H.J. Heinz Company; Dr Denis Waitley, an international authority on high-level human achievement; Willard Scott, popular weatherman on NBC news "Today" program, sponsored by International Minerals and Chemicals; and Zig Ziglar, author and one of America's most versatile speakers, sponsored by American Banker's Association. Looks like it will be another great one!

Delegates at last year's National FFA Convention voted for FFA to conduct a fund-raising drive to raise money to help restore the Statue of Liberty. The FFA Board of Directors and National Officers gave further approval in January for this project. As a result of these efforts, a plan has been developed and will be carried out during the remainder of this year. You will want to watch for information about how your chapter can participate in the restoration of this important symbol of American liberty. Your National FFA Officers have enthusiastically endorsed this effort and urge your participation.

Wilson Carnes

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Roping is one of the many accomplishments of Doris Wallis of Gillette, Wyoming. See her story on Page 11

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News in Brief

Computers in Agriculture Seminar Includes a New Advisor's Seminar

The second Computers in Agriculture Seminar will be held at the Twin Bridges Marriott in Virginia outside Washington, D.C., on August 13-17, sponsored as a special project of the National FFA Foundation by AgriData Resources, Inc.

State winners' receive an expense-paid trip to the seminar.

New for this year is an advisor's seminar held in conjunction with the student seminar. "Hands on" sessions to be held for ag instructors will include using Apple, IBM and Radio Shack equipment plus a special session on the Ag Ed Network.

Statue of Liberty Fund Raiser Plan

At the last national convention delegates proposed every chapter be challenged to contribute $20 for the restoration of the Statue of Liberty.

The officers then developed a detailed plan and proposed it to the Board of Directors in January where it was approved.

National officers will gather ideas from their fellow state officers on fund raising ideas and then publish a booklet on how to raise the money in each chapter. That packet will then be distributed to chapters about September 15, 1985.

Chapters will conduct the campaign between October and December and send to the National FFA Center by the last day of the year. The organization will account for contributions and forward the funds to the Statue of Liberty Foundation. Costs to the FFA for administering the project will be recovered from the monies collected.

Recognition for Young Farmers

The National Young Farmer Education Association was recently recognized as a vocational student organization by Dr. Robert Worthington in the Office of Vocational and Adult Education in the U.S. Department of Education.

Adult Young Farmer programs are being conducted by vo-ag teachers in 1,000 locations throughout the nation and 26 state associations have been formed. National association membership is 26,000. Details can be obtained from NYFEA, 303 South 7th Street, Vandalia, IL 624711.

Try The Chapter Resource System

During the months ahead would be a great time for every chapter to install and put to use the Chapter Resource System. Perhaps the officer team could install it and organize the files and materials sent to the chapter as part of their planning exercises for next year. Details about how it works can be found in an audio-visual available from the FFA Supply Service. Request item SS-CRS-84 from page 38. The cost is $18.50. You could actually order the CRS kit (a set of file labels and folder labels) also from the catalog—item CRFK on page 37. The cost is $9.75.

Field Testing For Computer Disks

FFA will be field testing the redeveloped computerized American Farmer degree applications. Current plans call for software designs for Radio Shack and Apple computers to be released in late summer. Orders received before December 1, 1985, will get a special Supply Service offer of $49.95. After that date they will sell for $59.95.

Pass Along From National to State

Each year the national officers conduct National Leadership Conferences for state FFA officers to bring the newly elected state officers up to date on the FFA and to give them leadership training for their year ahead as state officers. Many of them have just been elected in the spring and early summer. The conferences are sponsored by Merck and Company, Inc., as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

A New "Paper" Delivery System

The usual packet of printed forms and materials plus the supply of award medals provided by the national organization for use by local chapters will be delivered via a different system for next year. A simple order form will be included in the '85-'86 Official FFA Catalog (to be mailed in August) which entitles chapters to their free materials. It will require only two check marks by the advisor—one to say "yes" to receive the printed materials package and the other check to receive an award medals package.

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The Mailbag

Official Dress

As an FFA advisor, I find it very hard to keep my members from wearing their FFA jackets improperly. Today's styles are to wear the jacket with the collar up or the sleeve cuffs rolled, which is in violation of the proper rules for wearing the official jacket which states that "The jacket should be worn with the collar down and the cuffs buttoned." On the cover of the June-July, 1985, magazine it shows two members with the sleeves rolled up to the elbow. Please help the advisors keep the students in line with Official FFA Dress.

Frederick Ahrens
Lisbon, New York

Good Decision

I enjoyed reading the article about David Seil in "'Good Enough' Just Doesn't Cut It" (April-May, 1985). He encouraged me to go through a small engine course. Once I was thinking of going through the course, but decided not to. Then I read the article and now I want to be a small engine mechanic.

Titus Kauffman
Spring Mills, Pennsylvania

Favorite Article

I just had to write and express my great thanks for the article "Telling It Like It Is" (April-May, 1985). I enjoyed it tremendously! I like reading about fellow future farmers who tell of their lives farming and how they got there. In my opinion, that article will be hard to beat.

Ilene Thurston
Wildwood, Florida

Compliments

I graduated from high school last year and now have a full time job. The only way I can keep up with everything that goes on in FFA is through the magazine and I'm going to keep getting *The National FUTURE FARMER.*

Lori Cooper
Fulton, Missouri

National Coverage

For almost two years I've read the magazine and I think you should do some articles from our neck of the woods. We have some great students and teachers here.

Jamie Hammer
Blaine, Minnesota

We try to cover the whole country, but our staff is unable to travel everywhere. We sometimes have to rely on reporters and members to send in news about their chapters. Write it up and send it in. It doesn't have to be perfect—just give us the facts (who, what, where, when, why and how) and we will take it from there. Good black and white photos also help to tell your story.—Ed.

Proud Parents

It was a pleasure to read about the four Star Agribusinessmen ("The Demanding Road to Stardom," June-July, 1985). Carolyn, Mike, Mark and Rex are certainly fine young Americans representing our farming communities.

We are proud to be the parents of one of them. We admire FFA members today and their desire to make farming a success. FFA has been a part of our lives since 1974 and we will continue to support it because we believe in it.

Loyd and Clara Wichert
Fairview, Oklahoma

Send letters or notes with name, address and chapter to: MAILBAG, The National FUTURE FARMER, P.O. Box 15160, Alexandria, VA 22309. All letters are subject to editing.

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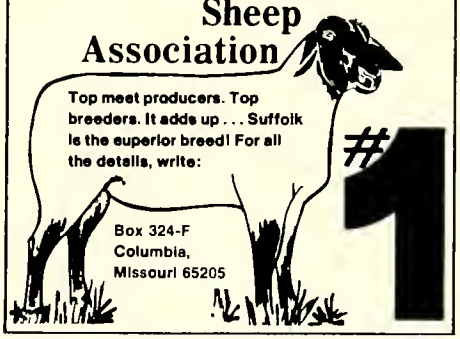
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Trends in Agriculture

Looking Ahead

Dairy Industry Moving West

Dairy farming is usually associated with the states surrounding the Great Lakes, New England and the Midwest. California, Texas and Washington, far removed from what might be called the "dairy belt," now rank among the ten leading dairy states. Population patterns are part of the reason, but profits are part of the reason for the increase in the Southwest. Climate is one major difference. Colder northern temperatures require larger investments in dairy buildings. Because much of the Southwest is irrigated, hay and forage quality is another climate-related advantage.

Payoff for Radial Tires

Rear radial tractor tires will cut fuel consumption per acre by 5 to 10 percent and can equally increase work performed per hour. Radial tires cost $650-$800 more per pair in the larger sizes, but should last at least 1,000 work hours longer than bias tires.

Mixed Reaction To Tax Plan

One person's tax break can be viewed as another person's tax incentive and farm state lawmakers have many concerns over the administration's recent tax proposals. Some of the changes likely to affect agriculture: repeal of the investment tax credit; lengthening the periods for accelerated cost recovery on depreciation; deductions for clearing and leveling land for farming would be eliminated; and capital gains treatment of breeding stock would be ended. Special hearings by the House Ways and Means Committee to examine the tax code impacts on farmers and livestock producers are planned.

A New Gallup Poll

A new poll, commissioned by a group trying to upgrade the image of agriculture, shows the average American is aware of the USA's farm and food system. The study revealed that the public is aware of such issues as agricultural exports, over supply of many commodities and the controversy over farm programs and who benefits the most by them. Major areas of public concern include air pollution, food contamination, pollution, water contamination and soil erosion. Ninety percent of the people polled agreed that farming was a risky business.

Sodbuster Bill Planned

Highly erodable land would be protected under the House Agriculture Subcommittee's "sodbuster bill." The soil conservation measure would deal with protecting fragile lands in two stages. For highly erodable land which has not been cultivated since 1980, the bill provides a program to discourage plowing up fragile soils. Penalities would be high and a producer would lose price supports. For highly erodable soils which are already in crop use, the legislation provides a long term conservation program under which farmers would contract with the government to return the acreage to less intensive uses such as grasses or trees.

New Market for U.S. Pork

A government decree in Singapore that forbids pork production may benefit U.S. pork producers. Hogs were competing for space and water and polluting in a country that has one of the highest population densities in the world. Singapore, formerly a self-sufficient pork producer, is now looking for new markets to feed its 2.5 million residents and 2-3 million annual tourists. Convincing the Singapore consumer that frozen pork is acceptable is an important goal of potential pork exporters. Hogs had normally been slaughtered at night and sold the next morning in open markets.

Further Bank Deregulation Would Help Rural Economy

The American Bankers Association has called for legislation that would grant banks competitive freedom to offer a expanded range of products and services. Increased competition would create pressure to reduce prices and it would lead to a choice of more and better financial services. The downturn in agriculture might not have had such a serious impact on rural banks if they had more sources of revenue and larger geographic markets in which they could have operated.

Interest In Ag Sciences Decline

Public and private institutions have launched a five-year project to reverse a decline in interest in the agricultural sciences when young people enroll in institutions offering degrees in food, agriculture and natural resources. Major areas of concern are food and agricultural sciences, particularly in the areas of biotechnology and biological control of insects and weeds.

A LOT OF THE TRAINING THAT HELPED HIM BECOME A CHAMPION HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH DIVING.

Russ Rebmann is an Army ROTC cadet at the University of Southern California. He's also a Pacific 10 Conference diving champion.

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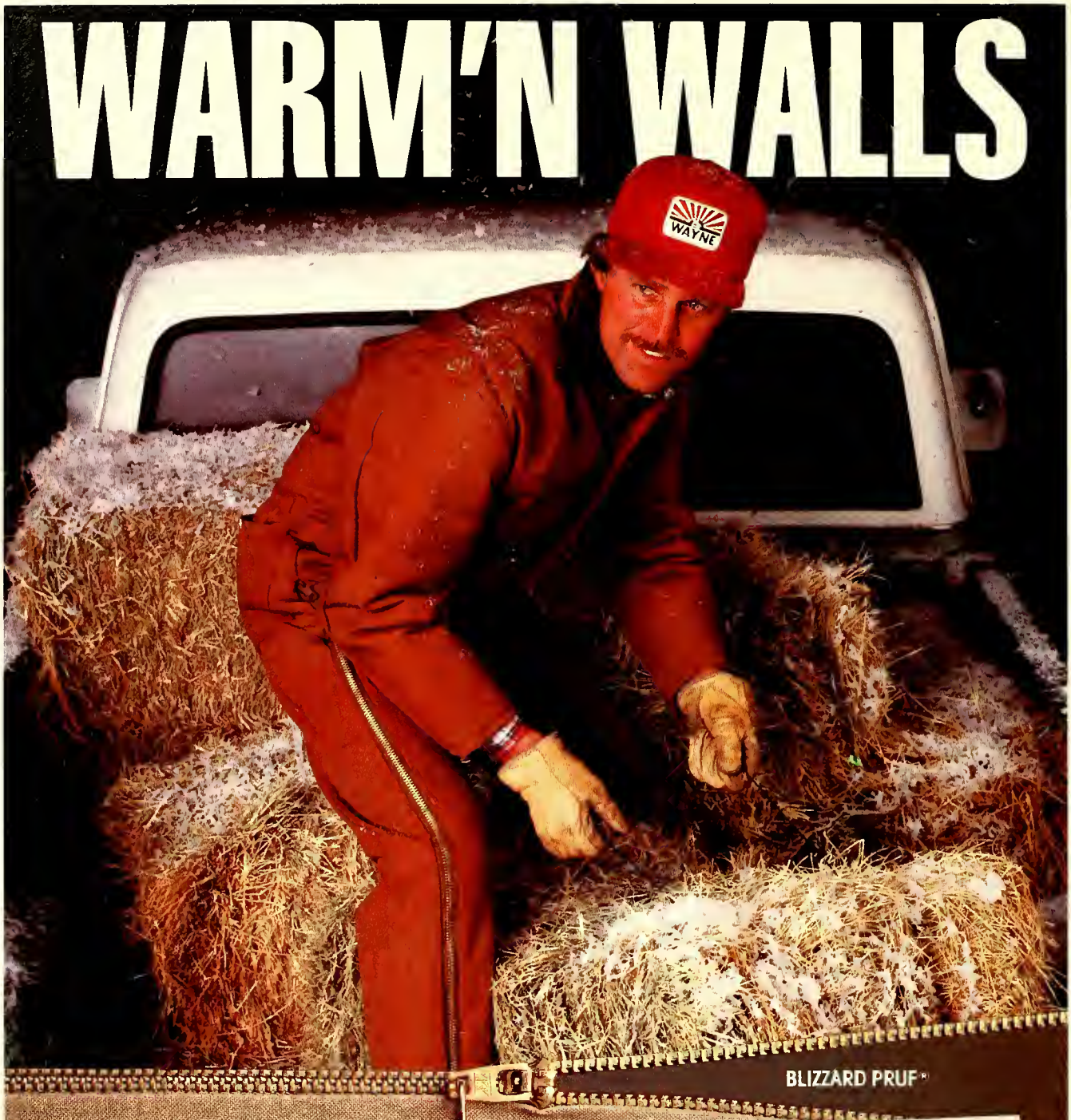

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Home the Hard Way

Riding, Roping, Tying. The fast-pace life of Doris Wallis, FFA's western region Horse Proficiency Winner *By Glen Richardson*

BIRTHPLACE: Gillette, Wyoming

AGE: Almost 19.

FAVORITE PERSON: Roy Cooper, rodeo's winningest calf roper and all-around cowboy a year ago. "He's my hero."

FAVORITE HORSE: "Painter." Real name Balmy Leo. "He's the horse I rope on, tie goats and run poles."

BEST ROPING TIME: Breakaway roping at 2:4!

GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT: Pacific region FFA proficiency award in Horse Management.

DORIS Wallis is a winner. Her accomplishments reflect the values, myths, heroes, symbols, beliefs and expectations that are woven together by an "overriding" interest in horses, rodeo, FFA and family.

Horses and family permeate Doris Wallis' life. They have largely been responsible for her success in FFA, rodeo and a highly-charged competitive career of roping and riding. She was born into a family where horses, determination and competitiveness are not just taken for granted, but expected. Values reinforced by Gillette FFA Chapter Advisors Jock Ward and Dwayne Anderson.

"It was an easy ride, a fun ride," says Wallis of her four-year trek through voag and FFA that ultimately led her to Kansas City to receive FFA western regional proficiency award in Horse Management.

The great-granddaughter of "Pack-Saddle Ben" Greenough isn't being overly modest. She knows a tough ride. A normal morning for Wallis calls for breaking and riding six to ten colts. She rodeos every weekend from April until October, competing in 35 or more rodeos in the tri-state area of Wyoming, Montana and South Dakota.

You might say she has ranching, horses and rodeoing in her blood. Indeed, there was a bit of "Pack-Saddle Ben" on that Kansas City stage last November when the youngest of four children in a fourth-generation family of cattle ranchers, horsemen and professional rodeo contestants picked up the $500 American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) sponsored regional FFA award.

"He was a Mountain Man," says Doris of her great-grandfather, an orphan who came to Montana from New York. For FFA members who don't remember—or never heard tell of Mountain Men—they were heroes of the mountain West: lean, hard, bearded, buckskin-clad frontiersmen who lived in the vast reaches of the Rocky Mountains and its valleys.

Wallis' grandfather was a cattleman in Montana and Wyoming. His brother-a great uncle to Doris—was world champion bronc rider "Turk" Greenough. Moreover, Doris isn't the first generation of girls in the family to take riding and rodeoing seriously. Her great aunts, Margie and Alice Greenough, were bronc riders who competed both here and in Spain and South America.

Doris' dad, Dick Wallis, manages several large ranches for Amax Coal and serves as a representative in the Wyoming legislature. The family's small ranch is near Gillette in notheastern Wyoming, a stretch of sagebrush and grassland halfway between Buffalo and Sundance. To some it might seem to be one of the loneliest spots in North America.

It is a spot, however, that attracts a crowd whenever the subject of good horses, roping and rodeoing come up.

It was here that Dick Wallis gave his youngest daughter her first horse more than 15 years ago. "I bought the horse at a cow sale as a yearling colt for $80," he recalls. Named Fancy Hawk, Doris recently sold the horse to an area youngster and she proudly proclaims "he has never lost a barrel race on the horse."

Although Doris is the family's first state or national winner in horse proficiency, both her sister and two brothers were FFA members.

In fact, reveals Doris, older sister Sue was the first girl in the Gillette FFA Chapter. Sue later became chapter president as did brother Frank who was also a regional FFA Public Speaking winner.

Doris was on the chapter agronomy team that won the state forage judging contest. She also competed in creed speaking and was on the chapter dairy judging team. Outside of FFA, she was a member of the varsity basketball and volleyball teams and was a member of Young Republicans.

As Gillette High School's top sophomore she won the Hugh O'Brien Youth Foundation award and a trip to a leadership training seminar at Buffalo, Wyoming.

Not surprisingly, however, it was in the Gillette High School Rodeo Club where she excelled most, serving as both club secretary and president. As a member of the Wyoming High School Rodeo Association (WHSRA) she placed fourth in the state, winning the right to compete in the National High School Rodeo Association (NHSRA) finals at Rapid City, South Dakota. Less than 1,000 high school finalists get to compete in the nationals. She competed in breakaway roping and goat tying and was alternate in cutting.

Now a public relations major in the School of Arts and Science at the University of Wyoming, Laramie, she is one of only four freshmen to make the college rodeo team. Moreover, the girls' team she was on accumulated enough points during the year to place second in the central mountain regin (Colorado, Wyoming and Nebraska) of college rodeo.

Doris had 15 horses when she won the regional horse proficiency award, but has sold a few since entering college. All of her horses are Quarter Horses except

(Continued on Page 32)

A national FFA winner in horse management, Donna Lee's past achievements are bound to make her

A Sure Winner

By Michael Wilson

Donna was in rodeo for four years.

It's tough getting involved in the horse business. There are lots of people looking for careers caring for horses, training horses, riding horses. The supply outstrips the demand, and many qualified young people end up contending for a handful of demanding jobs.

As one of those young people, Donna Lee of Newberry, Florida, knows what she's up against. But Donna has more than a few aces up her sleeve. She already has a rare combination of experiences and achievements in the horse business. For starters, Donna earned the FFA's national proficiency award in Horse Management last fall, putting her one step closer to her career goal: becoming an equine x-ray technician. And at age 19, she is just getting started.

Donna hails from a 53-acre horse farm outside of Newberry, where she cares for and trains her own herd of Quarter Horses. What really helped Donna hone her career goal was her experience as an assistant at the University of Florida veterinary medical teaching hospital last year.

"I found out about the job from my FFA Advisor Andy Blackwell," says Donna. "He learned that the school needed another animal technician. There was a big waiting list, so I called about it in September of my senior year."

Donna soon learned if she wanted the job bad enough, she would have to be patient. "They told me to call back the next month. I wanted the job part time since I was still in high school," she recalls. Donna called back every month until January, when a position finally came open. Since she had finished all her high school courses one semester early, Donna began working at the hospital full time. It turned into a fascinating experience for the young lady.

"I like horses *so* much," confides Donna. "I've ridden since I was two years old. I was involved in rodeo for four years in high school, even made it to state finals three years. But riding is only part of it. I am mostly interested in the medical aspect of horses. I found that this was one place I could really go and find out more about it."

Donna ended up working at the vet hospital five months before moving on to college. But, as she says, "I learned a lot in that small amount of time."

Donna worked in the outpatient barn, caring for recovering horses which only stayed for brief periods. "There were only seven stalls, but it's one of the most difficult jobs," explains Donna, "because horses are coming in and going out so fast. It kept you hopping."

Much of Donna's job involved unglamorous tasks, like cleaning stalls and feeding the "patients." But she also had to keep accurate feeding and medication records on each animal. Doctors depended on her to be accurate and to provide the most up-to-date information.

She also had to keep close watch over patients' "vital signs"—checking bandages, looking for signs of reaction to treatment and walking horses fresh from surgery, for example.

"I was sort of an in-between for the vets and the students," she recalls. "The activities were just like a regular hospital, except we treated horses instead of humans. Procedure was important. Everybody had a job to do. If someone didn't do their job, it could have meant the difference between the horse living or dying."

Donna also had the opportunity to help assist in surgical operations. The hospital is one of the most modern, well-equipped in the country. Often, a large, round "tilt table" is used to perform delicate operations. As a horse is put under anesthesia, it is led to the side of a large upright table; when the animal is almost asleep, it's strapped to the table, which is then tilted 90 degrees. From there, the animal is placed on a gurney and rolled into an operating room to be worked on by the school's doctors and students. Afterwards, the animal is taken to a foam-padded, soundproof recovery room.

Donna worked at the hospital full time.

Even with so many modern marvels, Donna says the most important part of her job—and the jobs of the doctors and students—was being dedicated to the horses' health.

"You've got to have horse sense," she explains. "My definition of horse sense is knowing how to get along with horses, knowing what they're all about and being able to communicate with them without saying anything."

Today, Donna is in her first year of radiology courses at Santa Fe Community College, after finishing general education courses last year. She says she has a lot in common with her classmates—except for one small detail.

"Everyone else in my class wants to get jobs in hospitals to work on people," says Donna. "But the school doesn't have an animal x-ray program, so this is as close as I can get. I'm the only one who plans to take x-rays of horses."

Donna received a full scholarship from the college, plus $300 for books. She became interested in this particular area after taking a few horses into radiology at the vet school, where she hopes to return to work after she graduates.

Donna admits her own herd of horses is not the largest in the world. Some FFA members may have better animals, or more stock. But she figures she earned the national FFA award last year because of two things: she set her goals and she wasn't afraid to "go for it."

"I couldn't believe that a little country girl from a little town in Florida could ever win anything," she says, smiling at the memory. "But that's one of the big things I stressed to everybody back here: that you do have a chance, even if you come from a small farm, or a small town. That award proved to me that small people can do big things, too."

That's the kind of attitude that has made Donna Lee a sure winner in life as well as in FFA. •••

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Rick's flock consists of 120 brood ewes.

Feeding from the feeder he designed and built.

Going Solo Was A Dream Come True

By Bill Kelsey

It certainly helps, but you don't necessarily have to be a top achiever in the classroom to score major successes in life—decide what you are going to do, do it well and concentrate on that. Set your goals, do your best to achieve them—and you will succeed. Take Rick Andresen's word for it.

Nineteen-year-old Rick, a member of the Benton Community FFA Chapter in east-central Iowa, should know. That's the philosophy that carried him through the 1983-84 Sheep Production proficiency award competition to emerge in Kansas City in November as the national winner.

He explains: "You've got to decide what you want to do. You can't do three or four different things and hope to be the best at all of them. If you want to have a range of projects, that's fine, but if you want to be the best you have to set goals and stick to the one thing you are really interested in."

For Rick Andresen that choice was not difficult. Sheep have been the main interest in his life ever since he can remember.

The family was raised on a 160-acre farm near Keystone (pop. 618), where Rick's parents, Dennis and Joyce Andresen, still live. The flock consisted of 24 ewes, kept mainly as four-legged lawnmowers for the orchard. For five years, Rick lavished attention on the sheep, before and after school. It was not long before his small allowance was augmented by hourly wages. Shepherding, walking beans and oats, and other work around the farm, built up his savings account to the point that, when he was still only ten years old, he was able to purchase the flock from his father, and begin a project that was "all my own."

Chapter Advisor David Schantz says Rick has "put a lot of work into building a strong operation. His SOE program is one of the best I have ever seen in the state. He has acquired the skills necessary to become an excellent herdsman, and has developed a solid base on which to start farming."

Although Rick has "lived" farming since early childhood, it was only last summer, following high school graduation, that his dream of farming entirely on his own came true. Part of the family holding was an 80-acre farm a few miles from Keystone, offering a small house, a few buildings—and a lot of long hours and hard work.

"I felt this would be the best way for me to get started into a sound farming program of my own," he says.

Today, just one tough Iowa winter and one lambing season later, Rick is even more enthusiastic about the career he has chosen. His stock now consists of 120 brood ewes (the older ewes that have lambed at least once) together with a dozen ewe lambs, now just over a year old. He is fattening this year's lambs to between 105 pounds and 120 pounds, which takes between four and five months.

The majority of those lambs will go to market and will end up on dinner tables. But just a few will be good enough to keep back for breeding purposes, for while lamb meat production brings in the money now, Rick's goal is to become known as a producer of top-quality Suffolk breeding stock.

To this end, he keeps meticulous records of his pure-bred parents and progeny, which helps him eliminate the weaker points of his stock and perpetuate the finer points to improve the strain. When it comes time for breeding, his records tell him which ewe to match with which of his three or four rams.

His record keeping and extensive filing system help him in other ways, too. "I go through lots of magazines and other publications and file any articles I think might be useful in the future," he explains. "Then, for example, if I'm doing something I've been doing for years and suddenly a group of sheep are not responding to the same treatment or handling as before, I can look back in my file and compare the reactions, and see what other people have done in similar situations.

"You've always got to have an open mind for new ideas. You've got to be really flexible."

Rick Andresen joined FFA in his freshman year. He was Star Greenhand, participated in district, state and national conventions, took part in dairy judging, livestock judging, conduct of meetings and parliamentary procedure contests, sold 120 boxes of fruit, crushed chemical cans, chaired the community service committee, the scholarship committee and—not surprisingly—the chapter sheep show, which he was largely instrumental in introducing.

He put a lot into his FFA membership. What has he got out of it? "FFA has taught me to deal with people and situations like a businessman. It has helped me in public speaking, making me more comfortable when I have to get up in front of people. It has helped me in other ways, too. A breeder has got to have integrity and his customers have got to have trust in the breeder. FFA is nationally recognized as a respected organization of young people, and it has taught me that if you want to be respected and to do well in whatever you are doing, you have got to live up to the ideals you learn in FFA."

Rick Andresen's philosophy has already brought him several successes. He seems all set to score many more—and it's obvious that he's doing the one thing that he really wants to do.

"I enjoy sheep so much," he says, "that even if I couldn't make any money out of them I'd still keep a few around, just for the fun of it." •••

Getting Involved

The 1984 regional proficiency winners in Fish and Wildlife Management represent the new activists in natural resource conservation.

Using carpentry skills developed in vo-ag shop classes, Tony Johnson builds pens for raising rabbits. Profits from the rabbit sales helps finance other aspects of his wildlife management program.

We've all seen it happen: woodland is cleared to make way for a new suburban shopping mall; a thick fence row is plowed under to squeeze out a few more bushels of corn; a housing development springs up where once there were only tall pines and high-flying ring-necked geese. Change is all around us and it is, as they say, inevitable.

Yet, beyond the new shopping malls and the houses and the extra bushels of grain, changes are being wrought that are as invisible as they are profound. Protective ground cover is systematically destroyed, streams are polluted by chemical runoff, natural habitat and food supplies are swept away with the roar of a bulldozer.

Like it or not, every time we alter our environment we are managing our fish and wildlife resources, sometimes for better, too often for worse. Recognizing what makes the difference between the two will determine the quality of life around us for generations to come.

That's why the four regional winners in the 1984 Fish and Wildlife proficiency awards decided to roll up their sleeves and take an active role in managing our environment. Throughout their stories run the common threads of hard work, self-sacrifice, and a passionate regard for preserving the beauty and utility of nature. They are among the movers and shakers of conservation management.

Tony Johnson, Southern Region

You wouldn't expect someone who's studying to be a chemical engineer to be a dyed-in-the-wool conservationist, but that's exactly what Tony Johnson is. The rolling hills surrounding Lexington, Tennessee, have provided the 1984 national Fish and Wildlife proficiency winner with his own land laboratory for wildlife management, and he's made the most of a great opportunity.

In 1980, Tony helped form a Wildlife Project Group whose purpose was to encourage members to be concerned about wildlife conservation. He was elected president of the 25-member group which included parents and younger students.

With the help of his local game warden, Phil Neil, Tony organized films, field trips to nearby farms and speakers who addressed the group on a wide range of topics.

One of the group's activities was to operate a FACE (Food And Cover Establishment) contest. Tony's project involved planting several 20-foot by 300-foot wildlife plots on the farm to provide habitat and food supplies for a variety of animals. He learned how to control burn the pine forest to clear the way for the plots.

On his own farm, Tony helped build a one-acre pond and stocked it with 1,100 channel catfish. The American Soil and Conservation Service furnished half of the financing and supplied 10 percent of the fish. The pond now provides a water source for wildlife and the nesting boxes Tony built have attracted wood ducks and other waterfowl.

Tony says he now realizes how "shallow-minded" he used to be about wildlife management and abuse of the land. He changed all that, he says, simply by getting involved. "When a person gets his first taste of what conservation is all about," muses Tony, "he always wants more."

For Tony, getting the chance to observe nature firsthand and play a direct role in its preservation and enhancement has given him a taste for a clean and healthy environment. Achieving that goal is a job for all of us, and Tony Johnson is ready to serve.

Victims of exposure to the elements, Roger Glick repairs the electric motors and batteries on the automatic feeders used by deer, quail and turkeys.

Roger Glick, Western Region

When Roger Glick and his cousins inherited a ranch in the hill country outside of McAllen, Texas, he knew he had his work cut out for him. A quick survey revealed that the deer living on the property were "in pretty bad shape." Roger began feeding the deer on a regular basis and set in motion a wildlife management plan for the entire area.

Automatic feeders were installed for the deer, quail and turkeys. As the electric motors operating the feeders began to fail because of exposure to the elements, Roger developed enough electrical know-how to keep the motors running and the deer fed. Careful and steady attention to habitat and food supplies led to solid improvement in the quality and population of wildlife in the area.

After scouting for the right location, a rock dam was built on a ranch creek and the resulting pond was stocked with bass. Fish feeders were set up over the

(Continued on Page 20)

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The Horse Industry Looks Ready for a Sprint

By Glen Richardson

Everyone knows that corn, soybeans and cattle play a strong role in agriculture, but what hasn't been widely publicized is how much of that strength is coming from the horse industry.

With high interest rates, the super dollar and shrinking land prices are beginning to rein in the economic get-a-long for much of agriculture, the nation's horse industry is riding an economic boom that is likely to keep it on its faster track well into the next decade.

So whether you are an FFA member with an eye on a state or national Horse Proficiency award—or just an after school horse addict on the farm—it may be time to reconsider horses as an FFA proficiency project or even as a future career path.

Consider these positive factors fostering the upsurge in horse industry activity and paving the way for continued rapid growth:

- More than 3.2 million U.S. horse owners keep an estimated 8.5 million horses.
- Horse owners spent more than $9 billion last year (1984) for feed, tack, health supplies and related services for their horses.
- Horse owners have more than $8 billion invested in their horses.
- Horse owners own land and buildings used for their horse operations valued in excess of $4 billion.
- Horse sports generated more than $1.3 billion in government revenues, excluding federal and state income taxes.
- Horse sports drew more than 100 million spectators, including more than 76 million to the racetrack.
- Exports involving foreign horse sales exceeds $200 million.
- The 15 breeds considered "major" by the American Horse Council (AHC), increased registrations by 457 percent in the last 23 years. They anticipate another 100 percent increase in the next 10 years.

Size and Scope of Industry

There are 82 horse, mule and pony registries in the United States. In 1983, the six most popular breeds and the number of foals registered were: Quarter Horse, 168,346; Thoroughbred, 47,500; Appaloosa, 22,184; Arabian, 27,500; Standardbred, 20,298; and Paint, 11,128.

Approximately 80 percent of the estimated 8.5 million horses in the U.S. are kept for recreational use. The remaining 20 percent are used for a variety of profit-making activities, including racing, professional exhibition, breeding, agriculture and logging. Despite reduced growth in the population of grade animals, registered foals continue to increase at a rate of more than 5 percent per year. In fact, the increase from 1982 to 1983 was 6.9 percent.

The two millionth Quarter Horse (American Quarter Horse Association sponsors FFA's Horse Proficiency awards) has been registered and the end or even a slow-down is nowhere in sight.

Racing: Top Spectator Sport

Racing continues to be the number one spectator sport in America. Yet some states do not have pari-mutuel racing, and in fact, some states that have racing have passed unfavorable tax bills. For example, race tracks are taxed on gross income, not profit as all other corporations. This is true even though some of them are nonprofit.

There are approximately 127 race tracks in the U.S. and several are under construction. The American Horse Council lists 27 states with race tracks. However, there are many others, such as Texas and Oklahoma, that have tracks and race horses, but pari-mutuel betting is not allowed.

Racing can draw a significant number of people to a track in about any state offering good purses. An excellent example is Oaklawn Park in Hot Springs, Arkansas. They have excellent races, good attendance and horse farms moving into the area that are breeding good horses.

Shows Generate $318 Million

The American Horse Council's latest survey reveals that a total of 44,088 national and local horse shows produced revenues of $318 million. Moreover, more than $27 million of that money went to charities.

Local and national horse shows involve nearly six million exhibitors and employ 230,000 people.

The American Horse Show Association (AHSA) governs and promotes equestrian sports in the U.S. The association sanctions nearly 2,000 shows and competitions annually. AHSA's membership rose from just 20,000 in 1977 to more than 36,000 in 1982, an 80 percent increase in just five years.

Moreover, the number of horses recorded with ASHA grew from 30,000 to more than 44,000 during the same five-year period. Competitors that ride in these horse shows range from FFA members to professionals. The American Grand Prix Association's 1983 tour included 30 of the nation's top-level grand prix jumping events, with total prize money in excess of $1 million. In contrast, the first tour in 1978 had only 16 events and $240,000 in prize money.

World, State, Local Impact

The majority of foreign horse sales (more than $200 million) are to Europe; however, exports to Japan, the Middle East and Latin America are growing.

For many years Americans imported Thoroughbreds from Europe, and still do to a limited extent. However, the most valuable horses are now in this country, according to knowledgeable industry observers. Moreover, according to these experts, "the difference will become even more pronounced because the U.S. has more total numbers, which will permit a wider selection to aid in breeding better horses."

There are more horses in California (850,000) than any other state, followed by Texas (780,000), then Oklahoma (300,000). Colorado has increased horse numbers nearly 100 percent since 1971 to an estimated 220,000.

Horses and horse events also have a tremendous economic impact upon a community. The National Cutting Horse Futurity draws 30,000 people to Fort Worth, Texas, each year for 12 days. The average non-horse convention attendee spends $75 per day; the average Cutting Horse Futurity attendee spends $125 per day. The Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce estimates over 100,000 are attracted to the city each year for horse events.

The Arabian Nationals alternate between Louisville, Kentucky, and Albuquerque, New Mexico. Louisville estimates that this single event has a $23 million impact upon the community. In addition, several major Arabian breeding farms have been established in the area as a direct result of the nationals.

Albuquerque city fathers say the Arabian Nationals bring in more than $20 million.

Growth Also Brings Problems

The tremendous increase in horse numbers in the last decade has not been without its problems. There has been a decrease in the price of the "average horse" in the small breeds. Many breeders blame "over-production" for the price decline. Others argue that it is due—as in other segments of agriculture—to "under-marketing."

Nevertheless, the price of the top 10-25 percent has increased rapidly. Obviously, with more horses the competition for the best is greater.

A 28 Million Rider Market

Best estimates suggest 28 million Americans ride horses each year, and more than half ride on a regular basis. When one considers the time and money those 28 million people are spending with horses, it becomes very apparent the horse industry is on a fast track. Moreover, at the current pace, the horse industry will sprint past many of the traditional ag market leaders within the next decade—maybe even corn, soybeans and cattle! •••

Equine Baccalaureates: A New Hurdle for Horse Science

THROWN off campus for more than 40 years by the nation's land-grant universities as being less of a science than meat animal, dairy or poultry curriculums, young horse students will tiptoe into prestigious ag colleges as equals for the first time this fall.

The breakthrough is at Colorado State University (CSU), Fort Collins, where a major in equine sciences will be offered this fall (1985-86 school year), subject to approval by the Colorado Commission on Higher Education.

"CSU is the first land-grant university in the country to offer the major," admits Dr. Bill W. Pickett, director, CSU Equine Sciences program. "The curriculum will be similar to existing programs in animal sciences but with an equine rather than a meat animal, avian or dairy emphasis," he told *The National FUTURE FARMER.*

The curriculum for the baccalaureate in equine sciences includes the basic requirements for all majors in the department of animal sciences, College of Agricultural Sciences. Students have a choice of two concentrations—industry or science.

The industry concentration places emphasis on proficiency in management and business. The science concentration provides students with the background to enter graduate programs for advance degrees or veterinary medicine.

Still another segment of the horse industry has been given "A-School" status by a land-grant university: The "School of Racing" at the University of Arizona, Tucson, is the nation's only university program offering a comprehensive undergraduate curriculum in horse racing.

The Race Track Industry program at Arizona is designed to prepare students to enter positions in the multi-faceted racing, breeding and sales industry.

In addition to the land-grant ag schools, several liberal arts colleges—particularly in the East—offer degrees in horsemanship. Moreover, many of these schools have years of experience, excellent student-to-horse ratios and superb facilities.

One such liberal arts school is Virginia Intermont College, Bristol, which offers major concentrations in teaching, training or management leading to a B.A. degree in horsemanship. Johnson and Wales College, Providence, Rhode Island, offers a two-year Associate in Science degree in Equine Studies, leading to a four-year Bachelor of Science degree in Equine Business Management.

Still another specialty—an Associate degree program in Farrier Technology—is offered at Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas.

Community colleges and a host of private vocational, occupational and equestrian schools also offer advanced training to students seeking careers in the horse industry. Moreover, hundreds of training courses and clinics are offered by equestrian centers, horse clubs and vocational schools in such specialties as horseshoeing, blacksmithing, saddlery, roping and stable management. •••

Getting Involved

(Continued from Page 16)

Julie Hyland takes samples and measures the acidity level of the water to maintain the proper environment for the bluegill and catfish in her ponds.

creek in different locations. Before long, the health and size of the fish had increased dramatically.

A National Honor Society member and former chapter president, Roger has enrolled at Texas A&M University with plans to major in agricultural engineering. His winning experiences in fish and wildlife management will ensure that wherever he lives, the environment will benefit from someone who cares enough to get involved.

Julie Hyland, Central Region

Julie Hyland was practically born into conservation management. Her grandparents had been active with numerous conservation projects in the family's hometown of Belvidere, Illinois, and Julie had been helping them ever since she was eight years old.

Using land made available by her grandparents, Julie put together a Wildlife Border Establishment to maintain buffer zones around four fields and two woodland areas. The protected areas provided forage and cover for a variety of animals. Julie also constructed squirrel nest boxes and birdhouses. Meticulous records were kept of each species that used the houses.

Crown vetch was planted along the banks of two ponds to prevent soil erosion. Each spring the old growth is burned off and the seedlings transplanted to the bare spots. By controlling excess algae growth and feeding the catfish and bluegill, the productivity of both ponds has been improved.

The trees in the area received special attention. Julie planted over 1,750 coniferous seedlings for windbreaks and wildlife cover, and maintained 19,000 existing pines. Both chemical and biological methods have been employed to control insects and prevent disease, while younger pines are pruned each year. The number-one problem in fish and wildlife management that Julie sees is in setting aside enough land and caring for it properly. She feels this is especially important in today's tight economy as farmers worry more about the short-term profit potential of their land than the long-range benefits of land-use management.

Even so, Julie says that the public has a major role to play in conservation management. That's why she has participated in several public awareness programs aimed at adults and younger children. If enough people become aware of the benefits and simplicity of wildlife management, and if a few individuals will take time to give the land the minimal care which it deserves, Julie is convinced that the efforts of today will save our wildlife resources for tomorrow.

Richard Stickles, Eastern Region

Farmers can have the greatest impact on fish and wildlife resources, according to Richard Stickles. And he should know. The eldest son in a family of four, Richard has spent all of his life on the family's farm in Strasburg, Virginia.

Growing up on the farm provided keen insight into the subtle workings of nature. By the time Richard entered high school, he'd become an accomplished hunter and trapper looking for ways to further his interest and love for the "great outdoors."

With an incubator borrowed from school, Richard hatched ring-necked pheasant eggs and sold the birds to local residents for release. Profits from the project were used to purchase supplies and equipment. Breeding houses and confinement pens were built for quail, chukar partridges and pheasants.

Proper incubation procedures were essential. Temperature and humitity levels were monitored, and the correct intervals for turning the eggs established. A sanitation program for the flock called for sterilziton of the hatching equipment and spraying for parasites. At the end of the incubation period the birds were sold and then released in suitable habitat using the proper cock-hen ratio.

Trapping had been an early passion for Richard. As part of his program he maintained a trapline of about 100 traps each year. Mink, opossum, racoon, fox, and muskrat hides were sold locally and provided earnings that were reinvested in other aspects of the wildlife management program.

From a perspective developed on the farm, Richard maintains that it is the landowner who can have the greatest impact on fish and wildlife resources: "He can leave a couple of rows of corn or grain instead of clearing an entire field. Allowing fence rows to grow up would help provide cover and protect food sources."

For the individual who doesn't have the land or resources available to the farmer, Richard says the opportunities to participate in wildlife management are limitless. "You can contact the local game commission and donate your time to stock fish, trap, improve habitat, or build nesting boxes. The forestry departments are always looking for people to help plant trees or work with burn control."

Richard Stickles has lived 19 years of wildlife conservation. He's applied its simple philosophy to his farm. His future plans call for continuing his farming projects and lending his support to his chapter's FFA alumni. There's a big job to be done in wildlife management and Richard Stickles is prepared for a lifetime of involvement. ●●●

As part of the wildlife management program for his farm, Richard Stickles piles up brush to provide protective cover for a variety of animals.

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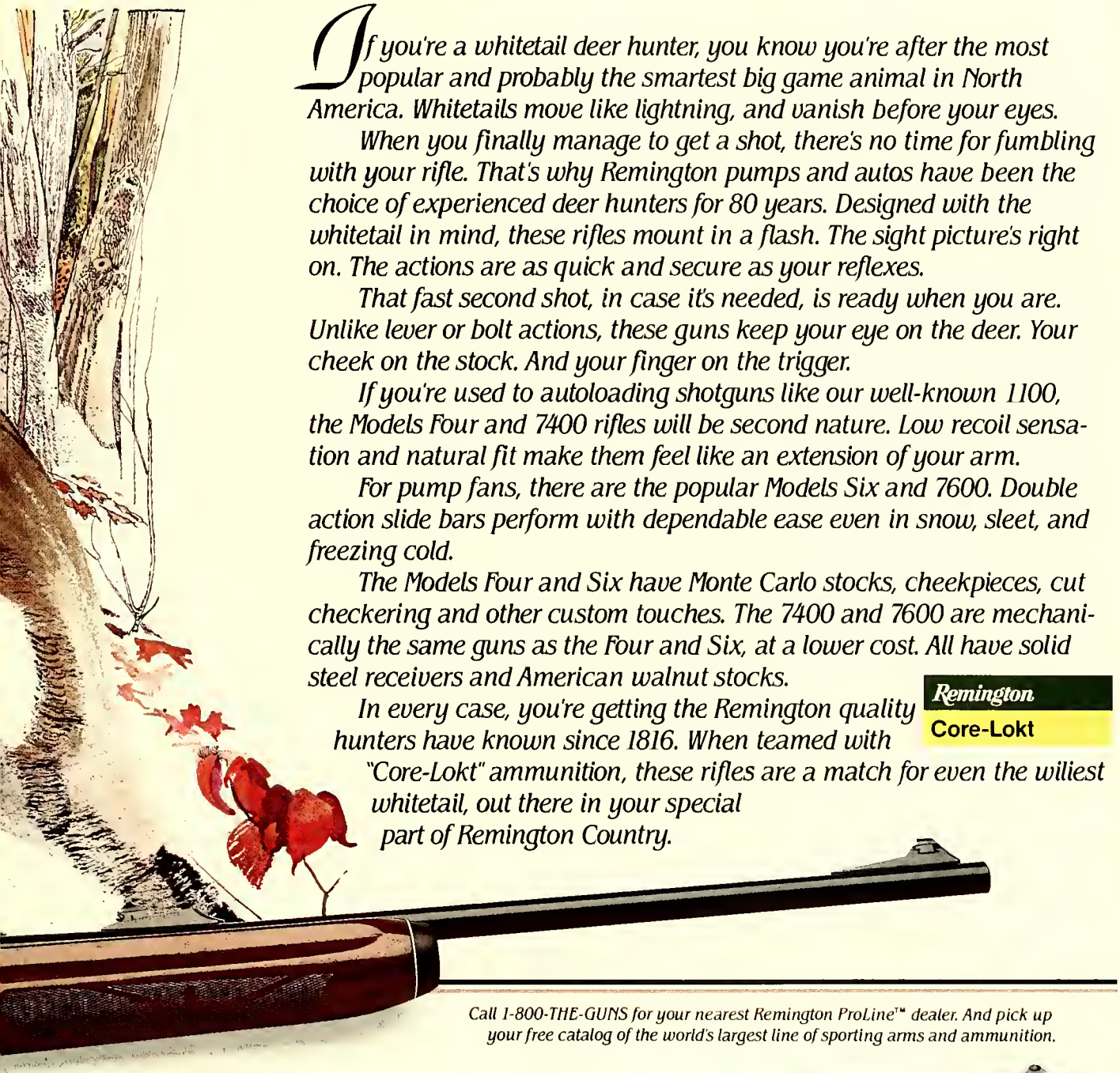

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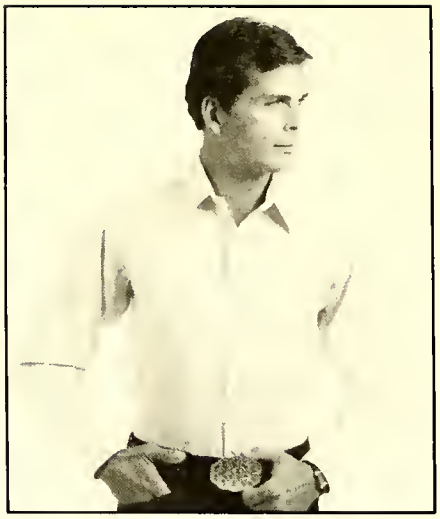
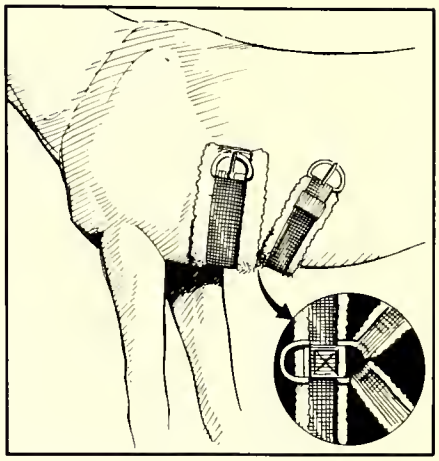


New in Western Wear

New in Clothes

Upper left, a new pullover sweater of 100% acrylic from H Bar C/California Ranchwear has ribbed neck and cuffs. The corral and foliage are interwoven to set off the embroidered horse applique. Above, Panhandle Slim offers a "Texas Banker" men's shirt of cotton/poly blend with pleated pockets, back yoke and buttons. It comes in light blue, white, mint, tan, steel and pink. Left, from Levi's Dress Westernwear collection comes the Montana Blazer in "windowpane plaid" and the Saddleman Ranch Pant, both in poly/wool blends.



Super Cinch

Adams Equipment's new #810 Josey Super Double Y-Cinch fits comfortably under the horse with tuck loops for off billet and flank, allowing freedom of breathing. Made of nylon and Kodel, the Y-Cinch also helps keep the saddle from slipping and holds it in the correct position. The new cinch comes with stainless steel buckles and dees.

New in Boots

Left, Nocona introduces its Rancher Line of western boots featuring the new Antique Saddle Smooth Ostrich boots. In addition to South American ostrich leather, the new boots are available in veal and bullhide and come with a 12-inch mid-calf bronze glazed kid top with deep scallops. Below, Tony Lama offers genuine elephant boots that combine style for dress with toughness for wear and tear. The new boots feature a 13-inch full scallop kitty tan top and colors that include chocolate, honey and grey. Below right, Wrangler Boot's new 421 western boot features a hand-crafted K-welt construction with a new outersole guaranteed against wear-through for 421 days.

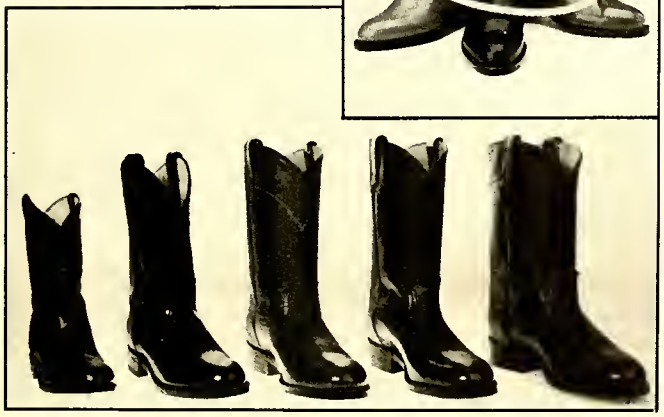
Below, far right, Acme Boot Company's Stock Show and Acme lines feature 3 colors for men that are all-leather, fully leather-lined with a stained leather outsole. An all-leather roper with an oil-resistant outsole for women and a new children's all-leather roper are now available.

Straw Hat
Bailey Hat Company's U-Rollit straw hat of Shantung fiber comes in ivory color with Texan crease, 4-inch Rodeo brim, Roan leather sweatband, eyelet vents and braided band.

Belts and Buckles
From Tony Lama come these antique finish, embossed belts with a rich, turn-of-the-century look. The three-tone, handpainted belts include embossed floral, T-bird and acorn and oak leaf designs.

Fleming Silver, a division of Rudnick International, Ltd., offers a complete awards program featuring silver trophy buckles, belt plates and pins, and silver key chains with event figures or breeds in gold fill or jeweler's bronze.

Roper Style
Right, Justin's original Roper boot is made with a Wellington-toe of kipskin cowhide and features 10-inch tops, shallow scallops, leather lining, triple-stitched vamps and leather shoe heels.



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News, Notes, and Nonsense from Everywhere

Chapter Scoop

by Jack Pitzer

The FFA Alumni helped the *Smithville,* OH, FFA run the concession stand at the relays the FFA hosted again for the third year.

N-N-N

During the Connecticut state vo-ag field day, chapters participated in the state's judging contests. After a day of judging, members were able to participate in recreational activities like a sack race, tug-of-war, ewe milking contest and a dead-bolt sled pull. Both *Housatonic Valley* and *Killingly* reported on the day's events.

N-N-N

Carrizozo, NM, Chapter also spent a day at their state's judging contest event. They came home with third place overall in the sweepstakes.

N-N-N

The chapter newsletter for *Oshkosh West,* WI, is "Down the Furrow with West FFA."

N-N-N

FFA'ers in *Centreville,* MI, helped extension agents in their county prepare 900 white pine seedlings for planting by fifth graders in the county as part of conservation awareness day.

N-N-N

Both the state president and the national president spoke at the *McLean County,* KY, Chapter in Calhoun. Handy for National President **Steve Meredith** to be able to speak in his home state.

N-N-N

Young Farmers involved with *Thomas,* OK, invited the FFA members to a hamburger fry to hear from the local state representative.

N-N-N

Report from the May meeting of the *Carey,* OH, FFA has a list of good fund raising ideas: orange sales, sausage sales, baby animal barnyard, seed sales, dinners at ballgames and finding some ground to raise crops to sell.

N-N-N

Last meeting of the school year for *Southeast* FFA in Ravenna, OH, was a pizza party. Meeting topic was to plan summer schedule and meetings.

N-N-N

Chapter sweethearts **Linda Goodrich** and **Sam Marcucci** are chairmen for the *Gilroy,* CA, Chapter's blood drive with the Red Cross.

Northmor, OH, FFA members have a new Apple II for their classroom. Now they can consider doing lots of things including sending news and ordering from the catalog if they decide to join the Ag Ed Network.

N-N-N

Oshkosh West, WI, Chapter has already signed on to the Ag Ed Network and can use it as a resource base, the advisor can get updates on prices and markets or even get lesson supplements. They can also get FFA news put on by the National FFA Magazine staff and order directly and instantly from the Supply Service.

N-N-N

Summer community projects for *Twin Valley South* FFA in Ohio are painting the school sign and replanting flowers in the two local parks.

N-N-N

The goal for the *Arlington,* OH, FFA Bloodmobile was 55 units. After three hours they had reached their goal and eventually got 75 units. Donors included 37 adults, 6 teachers, 32 students and 26 first timers.

N-N-N

Everton, AR, Chapter officers helped a newly organized chapter by demonstrating parliamentary procedure so the new chapter could compete at district.

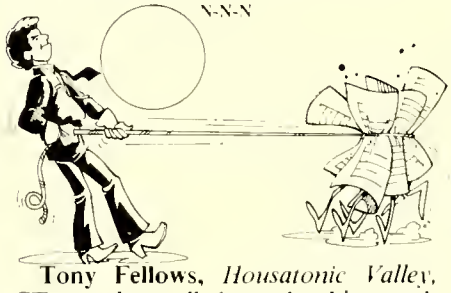
N-N-N

Alvirne, NH, FFA hosted a blood drive with their local Red Cross and collected 96 units for the cause.

N-N-N

Fund raiser projects of the *Arlee,* MT, Chapter are selling vegetable and flower bedding plants plus making and selling windchimes.

N-N-N



Tony Fellows, *Housatonic Valley,* CT, member pulled together his speech from the selected topics and took third in the district extemporaneous speaking contest.

N-N-N

Note to all chapter reporters: it is almost impossible to read most handwritten articles submitted. So most often we skip over them. That is also probably what happens at newspapers and radio stations. Try to get to a typewriter or to a computer. Computers let you correct and print out clean copy. You'll get much better acceptance if your article is readable.

District 214-211, FFA in Illinois held a career night at which alumni and guests spoke of their careers in the industry. Colleges were represented too. FFA alumni plans to continue the event.

N-N-N

Fairview, Ohio, senior division woodsman team placed fourth at state. The team is **Don Seibert, Greg Kline, Tony Meyer** and **Brad Hornish.**

N-N-N

This spring *Monroeville,* Ohio, members assembled farm machinery for local dealers.

N-N-N

Carey, Ohio, FFA decided to purchase a bench for the county fairgrounds.

N-N-N

Oskaloosa, Iowa, sponsored a volleyball tournament for the chapters in their FFA sub-district. Fourteen teams played.

N-N-N

Wallowa, OR, FFA had five placings in the Eastern Oregon Livestock Show.

N-N-N

Versailles, OH, kicked off their FFA Week celebration with a hearty breakfast at a local restaurant for all FFA members.

N-N-N

Five *Teton,* Idaho, members showed their hogs at the Idaho junior fat stock show and sale — **Tammy Rigby, Brent Kuntz, Kit Armstrong, Bret Martin** and **Brad Hill.**

N-N-N

Willard, Ohio, basketball teams did well in the county tourney this spring. The "B" division team of **Beebe, Snook, Courtright, Stockmaster, Maurer** and **Paramore** won.

N-N-N

Charles Herrick and **Marie Superchi** earned State Farmer degrees in Massachusetts and were the first two ever to earn the degree from the *Franklin County* Chapter.

N-N-N

What is going on in your chapter this time of year? What would you like to see happening—as a member or as an officer? What is your chapter doing to curtail the decline in membership of FFA? Are you encouraging fellow members to stick with it? Send news to Chapter Scoop about these topics. Or send them via the Ag Ed Network on Stargram FF100A.

The Deutz-Allis 8000 series offers Power Director transmission or 12-speed Power Shift transmission and standard 2-wheel drive or mechanical all wheel drive.

The New Deutz-Allis

ALLIS-CHALMERS Corporation and Klockner-Humboldt-Deutz AG (KHD) of West Germany have jointly announced that KHD has purchased major elements of the Allis-Chalmers agricultural equipment business, including the Allis-Chalmers Credit Corporation.

Kloekner-Humboldt-Deutz is establishing a new company in North America, named Deutz-Allis Corporation, for the manufacture, marketing, distribution and financing of agricultural equipment.

Completion of the transaction was announced by Bodo Liebe, chairman of the Klockner-Humboldt-Deutz Board of Management, and Wendell F. Bueche, president and chief executive officer of Allis-Chalmers.

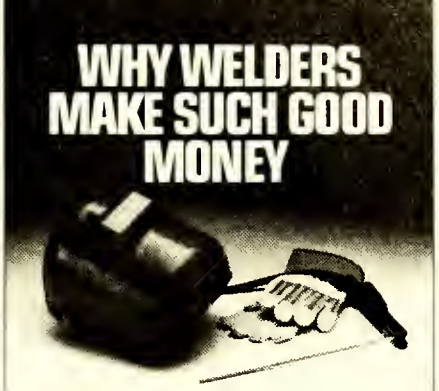
"This action by Kloekner-Humboldt-Deutz is a major strategic move to strengthen our worldwide position in agricultural equipment," Liebe said. "By combining the many special attributes of Allis-Chalmers in farm equipment, including products, dealers and organization, with the many strengths of Deutz, we are convinced that our new entity will be a major force in the North American market."

"For Allis-Chalmers," Bueche said, "this transaction marks the end of an eventful era in our history. At the same time, it signals a promising new future in which we will be able to fully concentrate our human and financial resources and special technologies on worldwide opportunities for our well respected process equipment capabilities and other businesses."

For the balance of 1985, Deutz-Fahr dealers will have additional products to offer their customers. They include: Model 8000 tractors, Model 4W305 tractors, *Gleaner* combines, tillage implements, planters, and lawn and garden equipment. Dealers who were formerly Allis-Chalmers dealers will have the Deutz-Allis round and square hay balers, drum and disc mowers, mower conditioners, rakes and selected tractor models to offer their farmer customers.

As previously announced, Allis-Chalmers said that the Allis-Chalmers tractor plant in West Allis, Wisconsin, and diesel engine plant in Harvey, Illinois, are not included in the transaction.

Klockner-Humboldt-Deutz, headquartered in Cologne, is one of the largest industrial companies in both Germany and Europe. It developed from the first engine factory in the world, founded in 1864. Allis-Chalmers traces its roots to a predecessor company which was founded in Milwaukee in 1847 and manufactured milling equipment and other industrial products. •••



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Gary begins a typical day in a logger's life.

Photos by Author

The Logger's Life

By Michael Wilson

IN Germany, the name *Berg,* loosely translated, means "mountain." Perhaps it's only natural then, that 21-year-old Gary Berg of Eatonville, Washington, has established himself as a bona fide logger high in the mountain forests of the great northwest.

"He used to ride shotgun with me when he was six years old," says Gary's father Bob, who had been in the contract logging business for 30+ years before retiring in 1982. Now he acts as his son's technical adviser. "The last few years, it seems Gary has spent half his time in high school and the other half up in the woods with me," adds Mr. Berg.

That time has meant great opportunity for Gary. After his father retired, Gary quickly proved he could step in and take responsibility for the family businesses, which also include land development and road construction. At 21, he's already learned the ropes of the industry. His experience helped Gary earn the national FFA proficiency award in Forest Management last year, an award sponsored by the Weyerhaeuser Company Foundation.

Ask Gary about a "typical" day in a logger's life and you're bound to hear a strange new dialect. For most, it's a foreign language, but the lingo needs no explaining for Gary.

"My big job is setting chokers," says Gary. "That's when you secure chains around logs. A yarder pulls the logs up the hill into a pile, where a shovel will load them onto a truck. A bushler is a contract cutter, the person who cuts the trees into logs usually about 32 feet long," he adds.

The bushler also "limbs" logs (removes limbs) and cuts tree tops. After they're loaded onto trucks, logs are taken to market where they are "scaled."

"That means the logs are measured and the length and diameter are figured into 'board feet,'" explains Gary. "We get paid per 1,000 board feet we produce." A typical job might bring $200-$400 per 1,000 board feet of timber.

Bob Berg says a typical home with 2,200 square feet of room will require between 5,000 and 15,000 board feet of timber to build. About ten cords of

Gary "limbing" a log before loading on a truck headed for market.

wood can be loaded onto a truck, and Gary can cut up to 14 cords of wood per day.

Although it may not seem likely at first, the logging industry has much in common with agriculture. Like farming, Gary has learned there is much more to his business than just the production aspects. The logging industry is often hampered by a slow export market and high interest rates. When those rates are high, consumers build fewer houses. The trees Gary cuts are primarily Douglas fir, used for building and constructing frame houses. So cash flow, marketing and business skills are crucial.

Before any logging takes place, Gary and his father will go "timber cruising." This means inspecting different plots of timber cleared by bid from owners such as real estate companies or the state government. Before the Bergs submit a bid to clear cut the area, several factors must be weighed: tree diameter, the stand, and the estimated volume per acre.

After a job is contracted, Gary starts the wheels in motion by hiring several crews of workers and equipment. He makes a telephone check of different lumber companies and sawmills, searching for the best price and location.

After the trees are cleared, the area is replanted and the process begins again.

Before any logging takes place, Gary and his father will go timber cruising.

In another 25 years or so, another logger will clear the land.

Although forestry is Gary's first love, his experience has led him down several different roads. He cut firewood from 1981 through 1983. Each year he built a large stockpile of wood, and delivered it when demand was high. The firewood brought $65-$80 per cord. He has also worked in the construction business, where he processes rock into gravel and as a land leveler for a mobile home site. In fact, Gary helped build one of the mountain roads he drives on to cut timber. Big construction machinery is second nature to him.

Although Gary has been active in FFA, he admits most of his time has been taken up with his first love—logging. Bob Brown, Gary's FFA advisor, says, "In vo-ag, we worked on the academics, like how to measure timber. Most of Gary's skills with the equipment he picked up at home. It would have been nice if Gary could have participated in more FFA contests or logging rodeos, but I knew he would rather be here in the woods, cutting trees."

"He knows the nitty gritty of getting the work done and making a profit," Gary's father proudly adds.

Those words would be high marks for any young businessman. And Gary Berg can be counted among the best. •••

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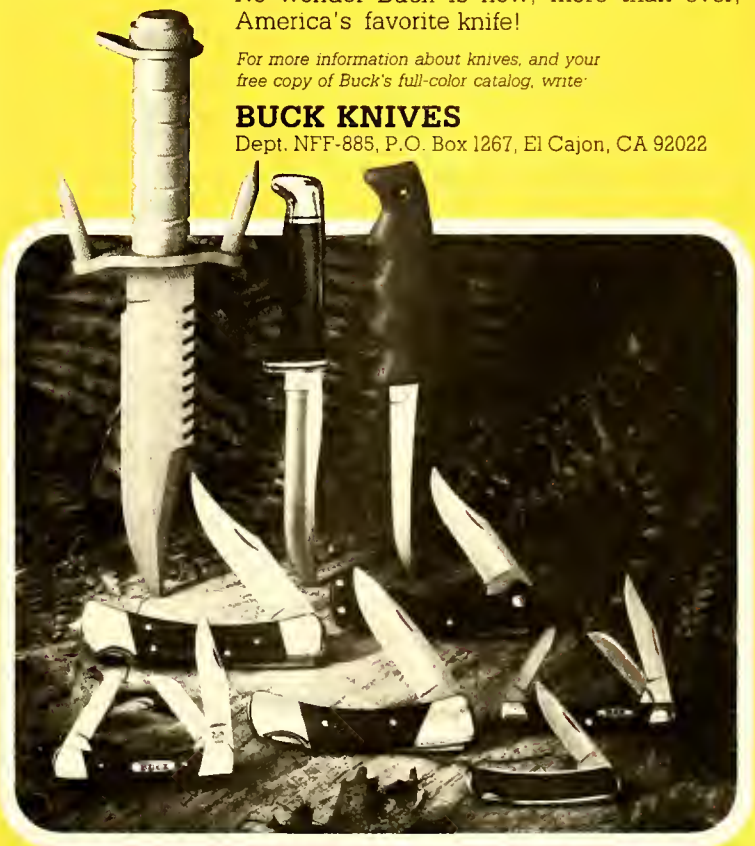

Eagles Soar, Turkeys Fly. We're Hiring Eagles

By Phil Bucher

"We invited 40 hotshot ag business college seniors from throughout the country to our corporate headquarters for job interviews. Gave them a two-day tour, all expenses paid. We were looking for a few good people who might become managers in our marketing division. Forty-eight hours after their visit only one had taken the time to mail a letter to me thanking me for our hospitality and stating his interest in working for us. Eagles soar, turkeys fly. We hired that eagle. Those other turkeys are still looking."

That corporate vice president was talking about a college senior who applied one of the seven job hunting principles that have helped thousands of agriculture college graduates find jobs in their field. The principle illustrated by the story is "interview follow-up"; letting the employer know in writing of your interest and, as a result, making certain you stand out from the competition.

Principle 2 is look fit and dress for the job one level above the one for which you are being interviewed. A manager of a U.S. Soil Conservation Service office refuses to seriously consider any candidate who shows up for the job interview without a coat and tie or, for females, a jacket and matching skirt.

"Sure you will be meeting with farmers in the field but you are representing the federal government," he says. "Dress the part. Your work clothes are white collar, not jeans. You can put a pair of boots and jeans in your car when you go out to make a field visit."

Since most employers are conservative, your appearance must be neat and clean cut. A college campus recruiter for Westvaco Corporation recommended counseling for a student who appeared for his job interview wearing a corduroy suit, scraggly beard and motorcycle helmet.

Principle 3.

"Extracurricular activities are weighed more heavily by interviewers than grades so join as many organizations and groups as possible, and most importantly, make a contribution to each," commented an agronomy graduate.

This third principle is important because of the attitude it reveals about you. If you joined the FFA in high school and later in college, it shows you are willing to do more than you had to do to earn a diploma or degree. However, the job interviewer will probably ask

"How did you make a difference to that organization?" showing the importance of getting involved and making a contribution.

Principle 4. Get work experience or an internship in your field. A top-notch graduate with a baccalaureate degree in Agricultural Business Management accepted a position selling agricultural feed, seed and pesticides for an international corporation.

"Ten of the 14 people in my training class had internships in sales," he said.

"Work experience related to your academic program is the most important aspect of your college credentials," said an agronomy graduate.

"A job interviewer seeing that experience knows that you will pick things up rapidly and will advance more quickly than those without that experience."

An environmental protection specialist says

"I can't stress enough the importance of an internship. It not only gives you a chance to see if you really like the major you chose, but it gives you a good opportunity of

(Continued on Page 32)

The author, Dr. James Philip Bucher, is assistant director of the Career Development and Placement Center, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania.

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Eagles Soar

(Continued from Page 30)

getting a job after you graduate. Even if you don't get a job with a company that offers you the internship, other agencies will see you had experience in your field and this will give you an edge. I have seen that in our company, not only with me, but with others they have hired."

Principle 5. There are hundreds of careers in agribusiness for every farm production job, so develop business skills. Accounting is a must and courses in management, economics, finance and marketing are also valuable.

Courses in business will teach you to display your profit awareness and cost consciousness when you talk to an employer about a job. Employers in agribusiness want to know how you can help them solve probelms and the biggest problem for any business is how to operate at a profit.

An agricultural economics graduate noted the importance of speaking the job interviewer's business jargon.

"If one is interviewing for a position involving finance or accounting, review the various types of interest rates commonly referred to in the industry—prime, simple interest, compound interest, discount rate, as well as financial ratios used in evaluating balance sheets. Be current! Know what happened yesterday and be able to discuss what may happen tomorrow!"

Principle 6 is to develop good communication skills and apply them in your job interview. This involves how you talk, as much as what you say.

"Looked me right in the eye when he was talking to me," said the campus recruiter from Dow. "He was really confident."

Employers want you to sell yourself rather than waiting to be bought. They seek candidates who are more than willing to talk about themselves and why they would fit into the company. Here are some comments from employers who were impressed by their job interviewees:

"Relaxed, smiled, and appeared to be following what was said; gave the impression of being compatible with fellow employees." "Very friendly and outgoing; had the confidence to carry a conversation."

"He had a definite idea of what kind of work he wanted to do. He showed this by the kind of questions he asked."

Principle 7. What kind of questions should you ask a job interviewer? Should you ask any? Definitely! One of the best ways to show a genuine interest in the company is to ask intelligent questions about the company, its future, and the position for which you are being interviewed. Here are some examples of questions you might ask:

1. What are the most important responsibilities on this job?
2. How would my work be evaluated and by whom and how often?
3. What do you like in an employee? What don't you like?
4. What are the greatest pressures on this job; what are the rewards?
5. Who will I be working with most often and what are their responsibilities?
6. What things about me interest you and what things give you some concern?
7. What are the opportunities for growth and advancement?
8. Why is this job open?
9. Are there any problems that are peculiar to the area I'll be working in?
10. Can you tell me about some of the highly regarded emloyees here and what makes them good?

Notice that many of these questions give you an opening to sell yourself, to reemphasize your good points or key qualifications for the job, or to bring up qualities that haven't been mentioned yet.

You must have questions in mind that are tailored to the specific company and to the specific position for which you are being interviewed. If you are being interviewed for a file clerk job at Ball Seed Company, a question about next year's new varieties of sweet corn would be irrelevant. In an interview for a junior executive position, a question about coffee breaks could be disastrous. Think of your questions in advance and make sure they fit your situation.

Apply these seven job seeking principles and you may soar above others like an eagle. Eagles are hired. Ordinary turkeys are still looking. •••

The Hard Way

(Continued from Page 11)

for one Paint gelding named Balmy Leo. It is this horse (nicknamed Painter) that Doris ropes on as well as ties goats and runs poles. She is using a younger horse, Rebel's Rampage (nicknamed Clyde) for running barrels.

In addition to vo-ag, FFA and now college, Doris has attended a number of horse clinics and seminars over the years. She attended the Dean Oliver Roping School, several horsemanship clinics, a barrel clinic plus cutting horse training.

It was the latter, learning how to cue a cutting horse, that she remembers best. "Dad leased a cutting horse for me," Doris explains, "and as part of the deal before I could take the horse I had to go to Valentine, Nebraska, to Willis Klingbiel's and learn how to ride.

"When I got there," she continues, "Klingbiel told me he thought it was wrong for people to bring their kids and expect them to learn to ride cutting horses in a few days." Happily she reveals it was just a short time before she was riding so well that Klingbiel allowed her to ride a half-dozen of his best horses.

"I really enjoyed it (cutting) and learned a lot. When it was time to leave he offered me a job. But with regret I had to return home so I could go back to school."

There isn't much else that Doris Wallis hasn't learned about horses. From treating illness to conditioning for running on the track, she has done it all. At one point, she considered pre-vet as a college major. "I love animals. But I don't like sick animals, so I think I'll be happier staying away from veterinary medicine," she concludes.

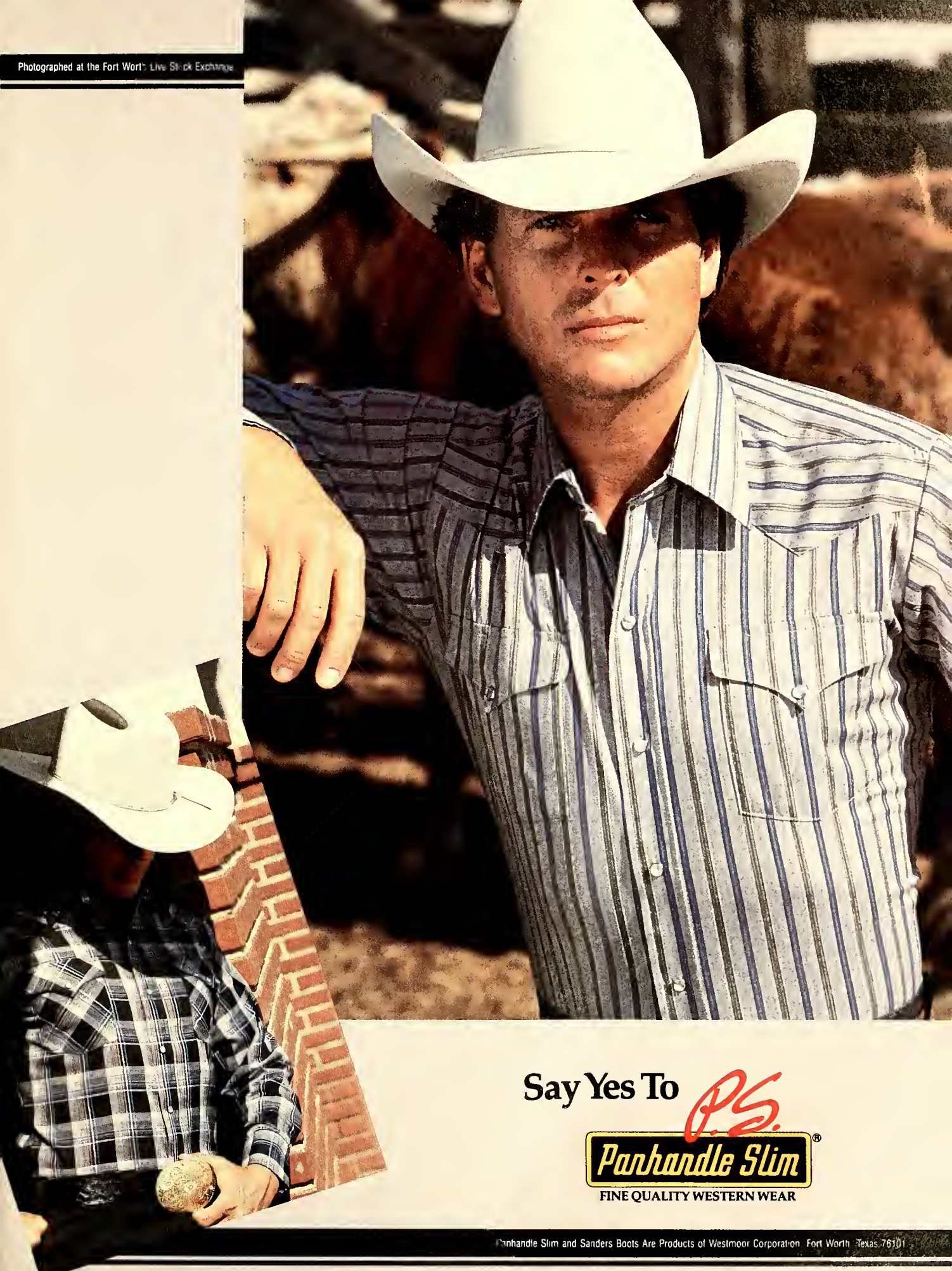
Her real interest, she admits, is not the track or the show ring. "Training is what has always been my real love. I have trained barrel, pole and rope horses. That, and rodeo is what I really enjoy."

Wallis also knows bloodlines and breeding. Although she doesn't own a stud horse, she has concentrated on breeding to roan Handcock bloodlines for performance. "Still," she insists, "I like training more than the breeding business."

Asked what she would do if she had the funds to do anything she wanted in the horse business, she quickly replies: "Build an indoor arena for breaking and training horses." If offered a job that combined her college training in public relations with her horse experience she "would take it in a minute."

Vo-ag, FFA and rodeo have been the roads to success for Doris Wallis. The family influences of men and women like Pack-Saddle Ben, Turk, Margie and Alice Greenough have been the genetic fuel. But perhaps most important is Doris herself.

Now a seasoned competitor and a talented horsewoman, she is one to watch—especially if you happen to be roping, riding or tying! •••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FFA in Action

National Officer *Action* Update

During the spring and summer, National FFA Officers travel extensively to meet with FFA members. In fact, one of the six officers attends every state FFA convention. On those visits the national officer is often pressed into service to present major awards to members or chapters, to conduct leadership or speaking workshops and to give a major convention address.

Other summer travels take the officer team to state camps, local banquets and district leadership conferences. These events are coordinated through the leadership department at the National FFA Center.

Brad Bass, western vice president, presented the new chapter charter for the Paisley, Oregon, FFA to the chapter representatives and Advisor Bill Tiffee.

President Steve Meredith was at the Wyoming State Leadership Conference and fielded questions from chapter delegates.

One important event on the officers' schedule is the series of Leadership Conference Programs sessions in Washington, D.C. The officers are available and visible, as always, to meet with members plus they have typical motivational responsibilities for the conferences.

Their final summer events are the Board of Directors meeting in July and the State Presidents' Leadership Conference. •••

Western Victory

The Dyersburg, Tennessee, FFA Chapter was named champion chapter of West Tennessee at the annual West Tennessee FFA awards banquet held at Memphis State University, Memphis, Tennessee. Some 48 chapters participate in the awards program and are recognized for their work in SOEP and FFA. The championship is based on a point system. Dyersburg won in dairy judging, farm mechanics skills plus creed and public speaking. •••

Touch of Spring

Greenville, Ohio, FFA members Greg Dull, Jeff Martin, Brian Johnson and Jim VandenBosch recently took several small farm animals to The Brethren's Home as part of the chapter's community service project.

They spent a day with the residents and allowed them to pet and hold baby chicks and lambs. Other animals at the display were a Holstein calf, two baby pigs, several mice, hamsters and a rabbit. The residents of the home enjoyed being with the animals because they are unable to get out and visit area farms in the spring. *(Daryl Benedict, Reporter)* •••

A Mini Supply Service

The Blairs, Virginia, FFA Chapter makes it easy for students to obtain FFA supplies offered in the official FFA Supply Service catalog.

When one of the local department stores moved to the Piedmont Mall in Danville, the Blairs Chapter purchased one of their jewelry cases. Locks were added to the drawers for storage and a lock was added to the sliding glass showcase.

A large supply of different items were purchased from the Supply Service to be placed on display in the lighted showcase. Items can be seen better in the showcase than in the FFA catalog and items are available for purchase on the spot. The selection featured personal items members would want like caps, belts, T-shirts, a manual, an FFA Member Lives Here sign, ties and jewelry.

Blairs takes pride with the amount of support it gives the FFA Supply Service. Every year students purchase anywhere from 30 to 75 FFA jackets. The annual parent-member banquet requires a large order of supplies, awards and

Pictured from left to right in front of the display case are Benny Guill, advisor; Joey Slaughter; Wayne Shelton; Wendy Bryant; Steve Dodson; and Lloyd Brooks.

plaques. The FFA also provides a scholarship pin to each of the students that maintains at least a B average in all of their classes for the year. With over 200 students in agriculture, there are around 30 or more scholarship pins purchased per year.

Total purchases by the chapter from the FFA Supply Service range from $2,000 to $4,000 per year. We hope this article will encourage other chapters to provide some type of display cases for students to view. We have found this to be a very popular showcase with the students and the parents.

Challenging Week

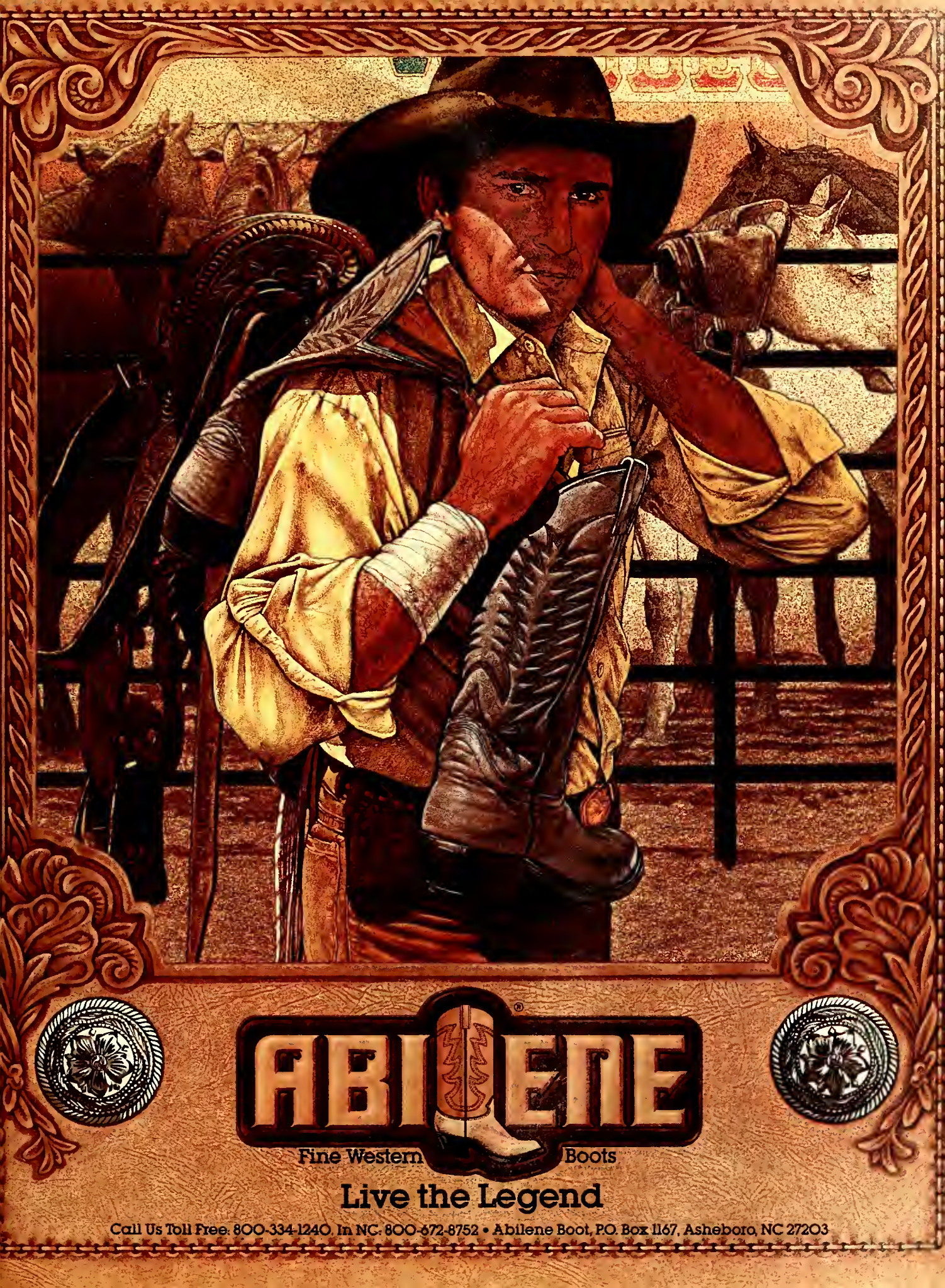
A highlight of National Vocational Education Week activities at the Cass County Area Voc-Tech School in Missouri was the challenge of the FFA to the VICA and DECA members to an evening of volleyball. The FFA chapter recreation committee organized the evening and furnished refreshments. Other activities included a display at the local department store, programs, posters and buttons promoting the vocational school. *(Doug Roth, Reporter)*

Hunting With Safety

A hunter safety program sanctioned by the Mississippi Department of Wildlife Conservation was recently held at Independence High School for 175 FFA members and students. The two-week long activity was sponsored by FFA.

Students were instructed by Mr. Yancie Ross, agriculture teacher and

(Continued on Page 36)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AN ATVENTURE IN SAFETY

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FFA in Action

certified firearms instructor. Assistant instructors were Mr. Robert Massey, principal, and Phillip O'Neal and Minor Jones, both conservation officers with the Department of Wildlife Conservation.

Students were given firearm safety training and the opportunity to demonstrate their ability to handle firearms.

The agenda for the course included wildlife films, game laws, hand guns, muzzle loaders and the proper procedure for cleaning firearms. Each student was required to take a final exam on material covered in the course. Those who passed the course were allowed to demonstrate their ability to handle firearms safely by shooting ten rounds of .22 ammunition.

Students successfully completed the course received a certificate and a safety sticker and will receive a patch and a certification card from the Department of Wildlife Conservation. *(Chris Jamison, Reporter)*

Line Drive by Radio

The Superior, Nebraska, Chapter hosted an FFA Radio Day on station KRFS. FFA members from Superior and Nelson, Nebraska, chapters and from Mankato, Kansas, aired live during the day.

Special guests were Kansas state officers Michelle Benoit and Stacey Campbell and Nebraska State Vice President Neil Lewis.

The group discussed FFA on the local and state levels comparing the two different associations. Items discussed were SOE, BOAC, safety, chapter ratings, vo-ag contests and promotion. *(Brad Biltoft, Reporter)* •••

Pancake Payoff

The members of the Beal City, Michigan, FFA held their first and very profitable Pancake-Sausage Breakfast.

In past years the chapter has raised money by selling citrus fruit and seeds, held raffles and during deer season, bow and rifle contests.

This year the Alumni asked our chapter if we wanted to put on the breakfast and we accepted.

(Pick-up ACTION from Page 34)

The breakfast was held on a Sunday in March from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The FFA work crew served approximately 400 people.

Later, after paying all of our expenses, we figured this turned out to be the most profitable pancake-sausage breakfast put on in Beal City. *(Annette Clark, Secretary)* •••

Farm Boasts Seven American Farmers

The Martin Moates Farm which is served by the Enterprise, Alabama, school district and the Enterprise FFA boasts a legacy of seven American Farmer degree recipients. These FFA members were employed at the Moates Farm through the supervised occupational work experience program.

Martin Moates was the first to receive his degree back in 1944. He now owns and operates a 1,000-acre row crop and dairy farm in partnership with his two sons Ben and David.

Ben Moates received his degree in 1973 and is a full-time farmer and manager of the dairy in the family partnership. Wayne Hendrix received his degree in 1974 and is a farm owner-operator employed by the Moates Farm. David Moates received his degree in 1976 and is the mechanic for the Moates Farm as well as being a farm owner-operator. Steve Yelverton received his degree in 1976 and is employed by the Soil Conservation Service in Chambers

Standing left to right are Ben and David Moates, Wayne Hendrix and Johnny Brunson. Seated are Mr. and Mrs. Martin Moates.

County, Alabama. Donnie Parrish received his degree in 1976 and is employed by the Federal Land Bank in Jackson, Mississippi. Johnny Brunson is the latest recipient of the American Farmer degree while working on the Moates Farm. He has recently bought a 156-acre farm and a herd of cows.

The success of these men can be attributed in part to the fine cooperative spirit of all the members of the Moates Farm team and the vocational agribusiness department at Enterprise High School.

Credit must be given to Mrs. Jeanette Moates for inspiring each of these young men. Mrs. Moates is the mother of Ben and David and is Martin's wife. She is completely involved in the operation.

Agribusiness teachers who have worked with these young men are B. P. Dilworth, J. W. Reeder, Roy Johnson, Pete Thompson and C. C. Martin who received his Honorary American Farmer degree in 1984 at the National FFA Convention in Kansas City, Missouri.

Travel Money

The Bellevue, Ohio, Chapter representatives to the Washington Conference Program leadership training seminar in Washington, D.C. this summer will attend with the help of local scholarships.

The members each received $100 from the Bellevue Young Farmers as a conference scholarship, plus a $100 scholarship from the Alumni and $110 from the FFA chapter to help cover their expenses. •••

On The Air

Using radio is an effective public relations tool and one of the ways the Girard, Kansas, Chapter reaches the public. This audience not only contained farmers and ranchers but businessmen and prospective members.

Our chapter learned of the opportunity to use radio from Mr. Hugh Robinson, KKOW radio station's farm director. He met with the chapter officers one afternoon to help them use radio more effectively.

He had the officers explain what FFA meant to them or what the FFA was doing for agriculture. He attended the National FFA Convention in Kansas City and interviewed our officers there.

The chapter officers were also called to the radio station to do radio spots for National FFA Week. This gave the officers another chance to reach even more people in the four-state listening audience in Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and Arkansas.

The use of radio spots is now a permanent part of the chapter's public relations program. *(Todd Williams, President)* •••

Double Fork Sale

Members of the Stevensville, Montana, Chapter worked at the Double Fork Red Angus Sale in April.

In return for our labor, the Double Fork Ranch gave the chapter the money received from the first heifer they auctioned off. Each person who bid on the heifer also had their name put into a raffle for a pair of braided reins donated by the ranch.

(Continued on Page 38)

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(Pick up ACTION from Page 37)

Members were assigned to various jobs such as operating gates and shoots, cutting out cattle to be sold and working in the sale ring. The FFA is very grateful to Mr. Robbins, ranch manager, and the Double Fork Ranch for their support of the Stevensville Chapter. *(Dave Hopcroft, Reporter)* •••

Sharing the Computer World

A major BOAC program of the New Holstein, Wisconsin, FFA Chapter was that of a Farm Computer Seminar. Farmers and FFA members attended the workshop to learn how a computer can make their farm management easier. Then the people in attendance had the opportunity to view the software from seven different computer companies. According to a follow-up survey, this seminar helped 62 percent of those in attendance in their decision to purchase a computer or not. •••

Crime Watch

For the past three years the Zillah, Washington, Chapter has been working in cooperation with law enforcement agencies in the Yakima County area to help reduce crime.

The Operation Identification program has members engraving all valuable property that is usually targeted by burglars. The Washington state driver's license number is used. In the event that a burglar would steal property with this number engraved on it, that property is traceable back to the original owner within minutes via computer anywhere in the nation. Items that are often engraved include: VCR's, TV sets, stereos, tape decks, microwave ovens, scanners, photography equipment, guns and other small electrical appliances. For farm machinery and tools a special welding pencil device helps to identify and trace the property.

Over the past three years over 150 homes of FFA members and their neighbors have joined this crime prevention program. This year the chapter spent several days engraving all school district property such as audio-visual equipment, typewriters, computers and tools. They also spent a day during National FFA Week working with the Zillah Police Department getting community residents' homes on the program.

But the engraving is just one part of the program. The second phase of Operation Identification involves the marking of other valuables with an ultraviolet pencil. The driver's license number that could not be engraved on antiques, glassware or other valuables can be written invisibly on that item and can be traced using a black light.

Thirdly, a security check is made of the resident's home. Pointers are given as to locks on windows, doors and other points of entrance along with making residents more aware of situations that invite theft. Booklets are left that help the homeowner and farmer thwart future thefts. Tips on being a good neighbor and starting block watches were given. An inventory book is given to all persons to record room by room what is in it, serial numbers and value. This can be stored in a safety deposit box and makes a resource of information for insurance purposes in case of a fire or theft. •••

Keith Walsh engraves a microwave oven, a frequent target item for theft, with the owner's driver's license number. This makes the stolen property traceable in minutes via computer hookup from any police department anywhere in the nation.

Ron Nash, FFA president, engraves a rifle with resident's driver's license number.

Facts For Action

The Facts Speak for Themselves

- Athough 16-20-year-olds comprise only 10 percent of the licensed drivers in this country and account for less than 8 percent of the total vehicle miles traveled, they are involved in 20 percent of all fatal alcohol-related crashes.
- Drivers between the ages of 16 and 20 have fatal accident rates per mile driven that are 2 ½ times that of older drivers. Where alcohol is involved, their fatal accident rate is *three* times greater.
- Almost 4,000 young adults between 16 and 20 years old were killed in alcohol-related traffic crashes in 1982 and an estimated 120,000 injured.
- Setting the national drinking age at 21 is not to place the responsibility for the drunk driving problem solely on young people. It merely recognizes the need for a unified approach to protect a segment of our society that is overly involved in alcohol-related crashes and to protect other motorists from this high risk group.
- The drinking age must be uniform to prevent so-called "blood borders" which occur when young people drive to a bordering state that has a lower drinking age. For example, the drinking age is 21 in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, but 19 in New York. The New York Division of Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse reports that 39 percent of the New Jersey drivers and 49 percent of the Pennsylvania drivers involved in alcohol-related accidents in New York border counties were under 21.
- Data from the states that report blood alcohol levels for virtually all drivers killed in fatal crashes show that drivers between ages 16 and 20 have the highest rates (per mile traveled and per licensed driver) of fatal accients after drinking. This is true despite the fact that only about one-third of the 16- and 17-year-olds in fatal crashes were found to have been drinking.
- Almost 60 percent of the fatally injured *teenage drivers* (15-19) were found to have been drinking prior to their crash, with 43 percent at legally intoxicated levels.
- During the period between midnight and 4 a.m. on any night of the week, between 75 and 90 percent of all fatally injured drivers had been drinking prior to the crash.

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Cal checks one of the farm's farrowning cards for vital information on each sow and litter, such as castration date, sow number, weaning date, boar and date farrowed. The system helps ease record keeping chores on the huge hog farm.

By Michael Wilson

The Route to the Top

With two years of high school behind him, Calvin Brown, Jr., decided to transfer to a high school which offered vo-ag. He joined FFA and began making up for lost time...

CALVIN Brown, Jr., 19, can still remember his first FFA banquet, held over five years ago. Unfortunately, the banquet was put on by an FFA chapter from a neighboring school. Cal had heard a lot about FFA, but as a high school freshman and sophomore, that's as close as Cal could get to the organization. His own school didn't offer vocational agriculture.

"This is a prime agricultural county (Seneca)," says Cal, of Waterloo, New York, "yet we have no vocatonal agriculture here. We have only one school which offers vo-ag and it's in the next county (Ontario)."

Agriculture is big business to Cal, his younger brother and father Cal Brown, Sr. With the help of a full-time manager and three workers, the family farm finishes about 3,000 head of crossbred market hogs each year, from a 250-sow farrow-to-finish nucleus. The farm also produces 500 acres of corn and wheat to supplement their hog business. It's no wonder Cal's family was concerned by the absence of vocational agriculture in their county.

After two years of high school without vo-ag, Cal knew what he had to do. He made up his mind to transfer to Midlakes High School, the one school which offered vocational agriculture, across county lines.

"It was a difficult decision," says the strapping dark-haired youth. But Cal was glad he made the move after joining the Midlakes FFA Chapter.

"Before that time I never really realized what FFA was," he says. "But I knew what I wanted. I wanted to learn as much about agriculture as I could, so I could go on to college or begin farming right away."

At the new school Cal had to play catch-up to the other students. But his enthusiasm more than made up for the difference when it came to FFA. He served as chapter treasurer his first year, and chapter vice president as well as treasurer of his sub district his second year. He quickly earned Greenhand and Chapter Farmer degrees by his senior year, and placed first in a statewide hog production and management contest at the New York state fair.

Considering Cal's short-lived experience in FFA, those were honors to be proud of. But his most astonishing achievement was still before him. As a senior Cal earned Star Farmer honors in his district and applied for the FFA Swine Production proficiency award. He earned the local, state and finally, was recognized as the finest FFA hog producer in the eastern region. Later that year he earned his State Farmer degree.

Cal with his dad examining piglets in the farm's finishing barn where Cal designed and installed an innovative feeding system for the farm.

Photos by Author

Much of Cal's experience has come from working with his own herd of hogs.

"I've noticed more and more how important the management aspect of the farm has become," says Cal. His father agrees. "It certainly is the key to survival in agriculture today. Farm management has to come first."

It also helps to have plenty of determination, and a will to do what's right for you—two characteristics Cal Brown, Jr., has plenty of. After all, just think what Cal might have accomplished with two more years of vo-ag. •••

Cal's vo-ag instructor, Elizabeth Wolanyk, saw Cal's potential the day he stepped into her class. She says that potential changed to goal-setting after he joined FFA.

"Cal's scholastic attitude really changed when he came to Midlakes," she says. "He knew the direction he wanted to go—agriculture—but he couldn't get it there at Waterloo."

Big responsibilities

The experience he received on the home farm has helped Cal handle responsibility. With such a large livestock enterprise, one might think Mr. Brown would leave important decisions to his production manager. But Cal knows the ins and outs of the business. That's why Mr. Brown feels at ease leaving Cal in charge when a business trip as Director of the New York Pork Producers Organization calls him away.

Cal has had a chance to make his mark on the farm as well. Two years ago he redesigned the farm's automated feeding system in the finishing barn, to solve a frequent breakdown problem. "We tried all sorts of ideas until Cal came along with this system," says Mr. Brown. "We haven't had a bit of trouble since."

The farm's gestation barn, with individual stalls for 119 head, is kept full at all times. The Browns designed the crates themselves after traveling through the Midwest and Canada collecting ideas. Mr. Brown had started the business in 1969 with ten sows, "building one step at a time," he says. The farm was revamped in 1979 with the addition of a 28-foot by 280-foot finishing barn and now features a Harvestore silo and slurrystore liquid manure system.

Much of Cal's hog expreience has come from working with his own livestock. He had built his hog herd to 100 hogs and fed out six head of beef steers until last year, when his decision to attend Alfred Ag and Tech College to study animal science, forced him to cut back on production. But while Cal is still learning the business of farming, he already appreciates some of its most important aspects.

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The Joke Page

Q: How do dog catchers get paid?
A: By the pound.

Janeen Lee
Terrell, Texas

"You must be the lifeguard my daughter is dating!"

A city slicker got so worried about the ecology situation that he gave up his job in the city and moved to a farm. He was so concerned that he decided he wouldn't use tractors or any other equipment that might add to pollution problems. So he contacted the owner of the farm next to his and asked him if he had any horse eggs for sale, as he planned to do the plowing with horses.

"No," his neighbor replied, *"I'm fresh out of horse eggs, but you try the next farmer down the road. I think he might have a few left."*

When the city slicker left, the farmer called the next farmer down the road and clued him in. The second farmer immediately painted two watermelons brown. When the city slicker arrived on his quest, the farmer said, *"You're lucky, I just have two horse eggs left."*

"How much are they?" asked the city slicker. The farmer replied, *"$75 each."* *"Well, that seems a mighty high price,"* the slicker said. The farmer explained that horses were becoming increasingly in demand and scarce, so the city slicker bought the two "eggs."

On his way home, he dropped one of the eggs in a ravine. It broke and a jackrabbit jumped out of the ravine.

"Well," the city slicker said to himself, *"It was a good egg all right, but the horse would have been too fast to hitch up to a plow, anyway."*

Clark Moore
Frost, Texas

An experienced Don Juan spotted a beautiful girl standing alone at a cocktail party. He walked up to her, introduced himself and said *"I'm a Leo. What's your sign?"*

"No trespassing," she replied with a cold stare.

Bobbie Mae Cooley
Bowen, Illinois

An antique dealer walked into a cafe for a cup of coffee. On the way in he noticed a scrawny cat slurping milk from what looked like an antique saucer. He ordered his coffee and asked the proprietor how much he wanted for the cat. He said the cat was not for sale. The man offered him $10 and the owner said he had a deal.

The man picked up the cat and said, *"Since I gave you such a good deal on the cat, why don't you throw in this old saucer?"* The proprietor replied, *"Are you kidding? That's the twelfth cat this week I sold with that old piece of glass."*

Bill Presler
Princeton, Kentucky

Little Boy: *"Do you know why elephants aren't allowed on beaches?"*

Little Girl: *"Because they can't keep their 'trunks' up!"*

Gale Wilson
Elgin, Oregon

A mother was studying her son's report card, trying to figure out how he got a D in conduct at the same time he got an A in courtesy. Finally shaking her head, she said, *"I guess it means that when he beats somebody up, he apologizes."*

Mark Trefry
Wenatchee, Washington

Every Sunday my sister calls long distance to talk to our 79-year-old parents. Once when she asked how Dad was, Mom said casually, *"I think something's wrong with him. He's sitting in the living room with nothing on."*

"Nothing on?" my sister repeated, concerned.

"Yes," Mom replied. *"The TV's off, the record player doesn't work and I don't hear the radio."*

Jason Strange
Salem, Missouri

A little boy who had spent a week at a dude ranch told his mother excitedly: *"Mom, I even saw a man who makes horses."*

"Are you sure?" asked his mother.

"Yes," he replied. *"He had a horse nearly finished when I saw him, and he was just nailing on the feet."*

Janet German
Indianapolis, Indiana

Charlie, the Greenhand

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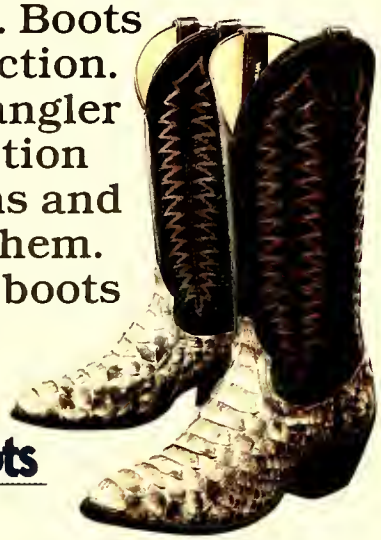

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